

B¹ This application claims the priority of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/121,048 which was filed on February 22, 1999.

In the Claims

41. (Once Amended) A process for the manufacture of a composition in solid oral dosage form comprising the step of:

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- a) providing a blend of a drug and, as an enhancer: a) a medium chain fatty acid salt having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms; b) a medium chain fatty acid halide, anhydride, or glyceride derivative which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms; or c) a difunctional medium-chain fatty acid derivative having a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, which has on one end an acid salt, halide, anhydride or glyceride functional group, and on the other end an acid halide, anhydride or glyceride functional group, or a salt thereof, and which blend also comprises, optionally, another constituent(s), wherein each of said drug, enhancer, and optional constituent(s) is a solid at room temperature; and
 - b) forming said solid oral dosage form of the composition from the blend by:

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- i) direct compression of the blend; or
 - ii granulating the blend to form a granulate for incorporation into said solid oral dosage form.
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47. (Once Amended) A composition in solid oral dosage form comprising a drug and, as an enhancer: (a) a salt, halide, anhydride, or glyceride derivative of a medium chain fatty acid which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof; or (b) a difunctional medium chain fatty acid derivative which has a carbon chain length of from 6 to 20 carbon atoms, and wherein one functional group is a salt, halide, anhydride, or glyceride functional group and the second functional group is an acid halide, anhydride or glyceride functional group, and wherein each of said constituents and any other constituent comprising the composition is a solid at room temperature.

REMARKS

Claims 41 and 47 have been amended to identify the derivative species referred to therein as being: (i) an acid halide; (ii) an anhydride; (iii) a salt; or (iv) a glyceride derivative of a medium chain fatty acid or a salt thereof, or a bi-functional fatty acid derivative or a salt thereof having one functional group which is: (i) a glyceride; (ii) a salt; (iii) an acid halide; or (iv) an acid anhydride, and a second functional group which